

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 47  
By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Betty Lee Honaker  
Gray of Bristol.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Betty Lee Honaker Gray, the highly respected and most beloved third grade teacher of our colleague, Representative Jason Mumpower; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gray was an exemplary public servant and remarkably gifted teacher who worked assiduously to provide the highest quality education to her students; and

WHEREAS, born in Bristol, Virginia, Mrs. Gray was the daughter of the late Raymond and Cassie Stevens Honaker; as a child, she also enjoyed the companionship of her brother, the late Bob A. Honaker, and her sister, the late Veryl Honaker; and

WHEREAS, Betty Lee Honaker Gray was a retired elementary school teacher and reading tutor for the Bristol (Tennessee) School System, where she worked tirelessly and with great compassion for many years to impart knowledge to her students and to mold them into productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career, Mrs. Gray distinguished herself as a professional of the highest dedication, ability, and integrity, and the positive influence she had on so many young lives is truly beyond measure; and

WHEREAS, her dedication to the teaching profession was an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel were valued highly by those who were fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gray attended Carson-Newman College, where she was active in the Delta Kappa Gamma honorary society, and graduated from East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gray was an active and devout member of the Virginia Avenue Baptist Church, which she served faithfully for many years as a former pianist and organist; she was also the organist at Litzmanor Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, her love of music led her to perform as a most talented member of the Bristol Concert Choir; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gray was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Betty Lee Honaker Gray enjoyed the loving companionship of her husband, R. Zane Gray; her son, David Lee, and his wife, Angelia Barret Gray; and her grandson, James Harrison Gray; and

WHEREAS, Betty Lee Honaker Gray leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Betty Lee Honaker Gray, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Gray.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.